

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 33000 171951Z

73

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

L-03 PRS-01 FBIE-00 /031 W
----- 074031

R 171940Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6181

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 33000

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, PORS, XG

SUBJ: POSSIBLY FRAUDULENT PROMOTION BY USA IMPORT/
EXPORT VENTURES/ANGLO-AMERICAN CREDIT CORPORATION

1. EMBASSY, AMCHAM, AND VARIOUS FRENCH TRADE
ASSOCIATIONS HERE HAVE HAD INQUIRIES OVER PAST
THREE WEEKS FROM SEVERAL HUNDRED FRENCH COMPANIES
WHO HAVE RECEIVED SERIES OF TELEX MESSAGES FROM
SOURCE IN MIAMI USING SUBJECT NAMES AND CLAIMING TO
BE IN ASSOCIATION WITH EX-ASTRONAUT WALTER SCHIRRA.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 33000 171951Z

MANY MESSAGES WERE ACTUALLY SIGNED IN SCHIRRA'S NAME.

THESE MESSAGES HAVE HINTED THAT SCHIRRA COULD HELP RECIPIENTS DO BUSINESS IN US AND SAID THAT SCHIRRA WOULD BE IN PARIS JAN 30 TO MEET WITH INTERESTED PARTIES. FRENCH FIRMS WHO HAVE RESPONDED POSITIVELY THEN GET FINAL MESSAGE (SENT COLLECT) REQUESTING CHECK FOR \$615 TO COVER "REGISTRATION AND PROCESSING". WE UNDERSTAND FROM EMBASSY BONN THAT SIMILAR TELEX CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN CONDUCTED IN FRG AND POSSIBLY ELSEWHERE.

2. WHEN DIMENSIONS OF PROBLEM BECAME APPARENT WE INSTITUTED INQUIRIES THROUGH MIAMI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (VIA AMCHAM HERE), MIAMI DO OF USDOC, BANK OF AMERICA (BANKERS IN MIAMI FOR "USAIEV") AND NASA AND FBI REPS HERE. INFORMATION THUS FAR DEVELOPED FROM THESE SOURCES AS FOLLOWS:

A) SUBJECT FIRMS REGISTERED VERY RECENTLY IN MIAMI AND MAY BE OF PANAMANIAN NATIONALITY.

B) INITIAL MIAMI TELEX NUMBER USED (515626) IS IN NAME OF MITCH RUBENSON AND BROWN O'SHAY OF 910 LINCOLN RD., MIAMI BEACH. INITIAL PHONE NUMBER CITED (5328331) IS ANSWERING SERVICE.

C) TELEX AND PHONE NUMBERS SUBSEQUENTLY CITED (515644 AND 5327426 RESPECTIVELY) ARE APPARENTLY IN NAME OF USAIEV.

D) BANK OF AMERICA MIAMI BRANCH ACCOUNT NO. 102-1011, TO WHICH "FEES" ARE TO BE DEPOSITED, WAS RECENTLY ESTABLISHED BY PEOPLE PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN TO BANK OF AMERICA. BANK IS NOW CHECKING BONA FIDES AND HAS FROZEN ACCOUNT. THUS ALL NEW DEPOSITS WILL BE RETURNED TO SENDERS.

E) SCHIRRA, AN EMPLOYEE OF JOHNS MANVILLE IN DENVER, RECALLS DISCUSSING POSSIBLE COMMERCIAL VENTURE WITH MIAMI PARTIES SOME TIME AGO BUT DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF TELEX CAMPAIGN, AUTHORIZATION TO USE HIS NAME, AND ANY PLANS TO BE IN EUROPE BEFORE MARCH.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 33000 171951Z

3. IN FACE OF MOUNTING EVIDENCE THAT TELEX CAMPAIGN IS MISLEADING AND POSSIBLY FRAUDULENT, WE HAVE ADVISED FRENCH COMAPNIES TO EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION.

4. SINCE THIS AFFAIR IS GENERATING WIDESPREAD ILL-FEELING TO DETRIMENT OF US COMMERCIAL REPUTATION HERE, WE HOPE DEPT WILL TAKE STEPS TO ENSURE THAT INVESTI-

GATION IS PROMPTLY INITIATED BY APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES.
WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY SUPPLEMENTARY INFO WHICH MAY
BE AVAILABLE TO LATERAL ADDRESSEES.
RUSH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BUSINESS FIRMS, ALLEGATIONS, FRAUDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS33000
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750439-0254
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751231/aaaabble.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <25 AUG 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLY FRAUDULENT PROMOTION BY USA IMPORT/ EXPORT VENTURES/ANGLO-AMERICAN CREDIT CORPORATION
TAGS: BDIS, PORS, XG, ANGLO-AMERICAN CREDIT CORPORATION
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006